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Appl. No. 10/047,352
Supplemental Amendment to Office Action dated December 13, 2007

REMARKS

This Supplemental Amendment is filed further to the Amendment dated March 13, 2008, filed in response to the Office Action dated December 13, 2007. Applicants have further amended the Specification and Claims 64 and 84. No new subject matter has been added by these amendments. The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge deposit account 02-1818 for any fees which are due and owing.

Applicants have amended the Specification to make the Title commensurate with the pending claims and to update the priority claim.

Claim 64 has been amended to clarify that the receptor ligand-regulated *c-myc* cDNA is capable of expressing a chimeric *c-myc* protein fused with at least one nuclear receptor protein having a *c-myc*-activating ligand binding domain. Claim 84 was also amended to clarify that the neural precursor cell is capable of differentiating into a neuron upon withdrawing the mitogen and the *c-myc* activity agent.

In the Office Action dated December 13, 2007, Claims 64, 66, 67, 69, 70 and 82-84 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, first paragraph, for allegedly containing subject matter not described in the specification. Applicants respectfully submit that there is adequate support in the Specification for the neural precursor cell being capable of differentiating into a neuron upon withdrawing the mitogen and a *c-myc* activating agent other than β -estradiol. As provided in the Specification at page 10, for example, the cells initiate differentiation upon withdrawal of the mitogen and β -estradiol. This is an example of a receptor-ligand system involving an estrogen receptor and the ligand, β -estradiol. The Specification further provides at, for example, page 26, that other receptor-ligand systems may be used. Therefore, it would follow that if another receptor-ligand system is used, the cells would initiate differentiation upon withdrawal of the mitogen and that ligand. For example, in the progesterone receptor-RU38486 system described on page 26-27 of the Specification, the cells would initiate differentiation upon withdrawal of the mitogen and RU38486. Therefore, there is adequate support for the neural precursor cell being capable of differentiating into a neuron upon withdrawing the mitogen and a *c-myc* activating agent other than β -estradiol.

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An earnest endeavor has been made to place this application in condition for allowance and such allowance is courteously solicited. If the Examiner has any questions related to this Response, Applicants respectfully submit that the Examiner contact the undersigned.

Respectfully submitted,

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BY 

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